

Exercises 1, 2 and 3(a) are to be handed in on Thursday, 18.11.2010, before the lecture.

Exercise 1 (Backward Stability) (*)

Prove that the multiplication of two real numbers ($f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, (x, y) \mapsto xy$) computed by $\hat{f}(x, y) = fl(x) \odot fl(y)$ is backward stable (\odot denotes the floating point number multiplication).

Exercise 2 (Characteristic Polynomial) (*)

The determinant of a matrix $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{2 \times 2}$ is given by $\det(A) := ad - bc$.

The characteristic polynomial χ_A of $A, \chi_A : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, is defined by

$$\chi_A(z) := \det(A - zI_2) = \det \left(\begin{pmatrix} a - z & b \\ c & d - z \end{pmatrix} \right).$$

(Note, that $\chi_A(z)$ truly is a polynomial in z .)

The eigenvalues of A are exactly the roots of χ_A .

- Consider the functions $f_j : \mathbb{C}^{2 \times 2} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, A \mapsto \lambda_j$ ($\lambda_j = j$ th eigenvalue of A).
The relative condition number of f_j for a symmetric matrix with only non-degenerate eigenvalues (i.e. $\lambda_i \neq \lambda_j$ for $i \neq j$) is given by $\kappa_{f_j}^{rel} = |\lambda_{max}| / |\lambda_j|$.
Compute these condition numbers for $A = \text{diag}([1 + 10^{-14}, 1])$.
- Determine the eigenvalues of the upper matrix A by computing the roots of χ_A (using Matlab). Is this algorithm stable?

Exercise 3 (Variance) (* - please hand in only part (a))

For a vector of real numbers $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ the variance of x is defined by

$$V(x) := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(x_i - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n x_j \right)^2.$$

- Prove the equation

$$V(x) = \frac{1}{n} \left(\left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 \right) - \frac{1}{n} \left(\sum_{j=1}^n x_j \right)^2 \right).$$

- Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the algorithms using the two formulas for the computation of $V(x)$.
- Find a vector $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ for which the first algorithm gives a better result and a vector $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ for which the second algorithm gives a better result.